

CHAPTER

XL 1807-

1808.

Disturbed state of Spain — Godoy, Prince of the Peace — Reciprocal accusations between the King of Spain and his son — False promise of Napoleon — Dissatisfaction occasioned by the presence of the French troops — Abdication of Charles IV. — The Prince of the Peace made prisoner — Murat at Madrid — • Important news transmitted by a commercial letter — Murat's ambition — His protection of (today — Charles IV. denies his voluntary abdication — The crown of Spain destined for Joseph — General disapprobation of Napoleon's conduct — The Bourbon cause apparently lost
— Louis XVIII. after his departure from France — As Comte de Provence
at Coblenz/, - - He seeks refuge in Turin and Verona™ Death of Louis
XVII. Louis XVIII. refused an asylum in Austria, Saxony, and Prussia — • 11 is residence at M ittau and Warsaw — • Alexander and Louis XVIII
— The King's departure from Milan and arrival at Yarmouth — Determination of the King of Kn&land -- M. Lemer cier's prophecy to Bonaparte —
Kouche's inquiries respecting Comte de Reohteren— Note from Josephine
— New demands on the Ilanso Towns — Order to raise 4000 sailors in Hamburg.

THE disorders of Spain, which commenced about the close of the year 1807, in a short time- assumed a most complicated aspect. Though far from the theatre of events I. obtained an intimate knowledge of all the important facts connected with the extraordinary transactions in the Peninsula. However, as this point of history is one of the, most generally, though I cannot say the best, known, I shall omit in my notes and memoranda many things which would be but repetitions to the reading portion of the public,. It is a remarkable fact that Bonaparte, who by turns cast his eyes on all the Status of Kuropo, never directed his attention to Spain as long as his greatness was confined to mere projects. Whenever he spoke of his future destiny he alluded to Italy, Germany, the East, and the destruction of the English power; but never to Spain. Consequently, when he heard of the first symptoms of disorder in the, Peninsula he paid but little*, attention to the business,